

Measles

1 Which children's book author lost a daughter to measles?

- A. C.S. Lewis
- B. Roald Dahl
- C. Maurice Sendak
- D. Shel Silverstein

2 What type of vaccine is MMR?

- A. Live, "weakened" viral vaccine
- B. Conjugate vaccine
- C. Recombinant vaccine
- D. Killed viral vaccine

3 Which is a rare but occasional side effect of the measles vaccine?

- A. A temporary decrease in the number of cells needed to stop bleeding (platelets)
- B. Vomiting
- C. Guillain-Barré syndrome
- D. None of these

4 Travelers to which recent Olympic games were warned to be immunized against measles due to local outbreaks?

- A. Rio de Janeiro, Brazil – 2016
- B. Beijing, China – 2008
- C. London, United Kingdom – 2012
- D. Sochi, Russia – 2014

5 Measles virus is closely related to the virus that causes what illness in dogs?

- A. Distemper
- B. Kyme disease
- C. Rabies
- D. Kennel cough

6 Which is a rare but uniformly fatal consequence of measles infection?

- A. Smallpox
- B. Cancer
- C. Subacute sclerosing panencephalitis
- D. Epilepsy

7 What distinction does measles have compared to other vaccine-preventable diseases?

- A. Highest fatality rate
- B. Most contagious
- C. Most easily diagnosed
- D. Highest rate of complications

8 Which of the following is not typically a symptom of measles?

- A. Vomiting
- B. Rash
- C. Pink eye (conjunctivitis)
- D. Fever

9 People can become infected with measles virus from respiratory droplets that remain in the air for up to ____ after an infected person has left the area.

- A. 30 minutes
- B. 1 hour
- C. 2 hours
- D. 6 hours

10 Which of the following is a possible result of measles infection during pregnancy?

- A. Miscarriage
- B. Early delivery
- C. Delivery of low birth-weight baby
- D. All of the these

Measles ANSWERS

5 The correct answer is **A**

Measles virus is closely related to the virus that causes distemper in dogs. In the past, dogs were vaccinated with the measles vaccine in order to prevent it.

6 The correct answer is **C**

Subacute sclerosing panencephalitis (SSPE) is a rare disease of the central nervous system caused by a persistent, but unobservable measles infection. SSPE can occur one month to many years (4 to 10 years) after a measles infection and is always fatal.

7 The correct answer is **B**

People can become infected with measles virus from droplets that remain in the air for up to two hours after an infected person has left the area.

8 The correct answer is **A**

A red, pinpoint rash beginning on face and spreading to rest of body, pink eye and fever are all common symptoms of measles. In fact, the distinctive rash is often the most telling sign of measles infection.

9 The correct answer is **C**

For example, if someone who has not had measles enters an elevator or other small space up to two hours after an infected person has left, he or she can still become infected with measles.

10 The correct answer is **D**

Miscarriage, premature delivery and low birth weight are all possible results of measles infection during pregnancy. This is why it is important to ensure measles immunity before becoming pregnant.

1 The correct answer is **B**

Roald Dahl's daughter, Olivia, died at age 7 from encephalitis caused by measles. After Olivia's death, Roald became a vaccine advocate.

2 The correct answer is **A**

The MMR vaccine is a live, "weakened" viral vaccine that is made by isolating measles, mumps and rubella viruses and weakening them in the laboratory.

3 The correct answer is **A**

The measles vaccine is a rare cause of thrombocytopenia, a temporary decrease in the number of cells needed to stop bleeding (platelets). However, thrombocytopenia is more commonly a result of natural measles infection and in these cases can be severe.

4 The correct answer is **C**

Measles outbreaks were occurring in Europe due to decreased immunization rates in that region; therefore, travelers to the 2012 London Olympics were warned to be immunized against measles.

